SENATE BILL 2660

By Bailey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3050, relative to home school students' participation in public school extracurricular activities.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3050, is amended by adding the following language as a new subsection (g):

(1) As used in this section, "extracurricular activities":

(A) Means a voluntary activity sponsored by a school, local education agency, or an organization sanctioned by the local education agency; and

(B) Includes, but is not limited to, preparation for and involvement in public performances, contests, athletic competitions, demonstrations, displays, and club activities.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (g)(3), students enrolled in home schools shall not be prohibited from participating in extracurricular activities sponsored or engaged in by public schools.

(3) If a home school student is eligible to enroll in a public school, then the student must be permitted to participate in the extracurricular activities of the public school to which the home school student would otherwise be zoned to attend; provided, that:

(A) The student pays any participation or activity fee in an amount equal to the fee charged to public school students who participate in the activity;

(B) The student adheres to the same standards of behavior, eligibility, responsibility, performance, and code of conduct as other students who participate in the activity; and

(C) The student adheres to the same academic standards as other students who participate in the activity, with those standards confirmed by written documentation provided by the parent-teacher to the local director of schools and to the public school sponsoring or providing the activity in which the student is participating.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to the 2018-2019 school year and each school year thereafter.